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Amateur Home Decoration.

Edward Dewey, d.d.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

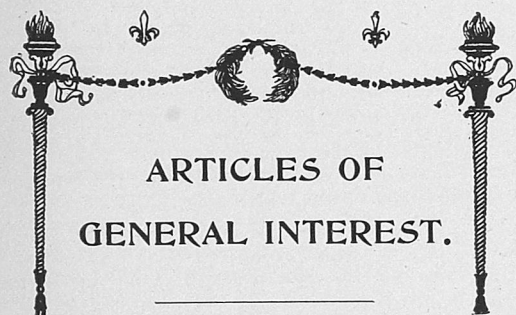
Subscribers who are either building new houses or are contemplating re-decorating their present homes are invited to write us for information regarding color harmony and artistic schemes of furnishing. We employ trained skill to solve all questions of interior decoration.

In compliance with the wishes of many of our correspondents to purchase housefurnishing goods in New York, we notify our readers that we have organized a Purchasing Department, and are prepared to purchase goods at prices quoted, without making any charge therefor. We strongly advise those who write to us for decorative color schemes to carefully consider our advice, with the samples of the various materials in hand, which we invariably send with each

reply, so that their minds will be fully made up when they ask us to Purchase the goods, and know that every item of their order is the result of a definite decision. It is impossible to exchange goods after the materials have been cut and shipped, and we hope, in all cases, that the goods as ordered, when sent will be accepted and paid for.

Correspondents when writing us are particularly requested to embody a reply to the following points in their letters:

1. Write legibly and on one side of the paper.
2. Send copy of architect's plan or a rough sketch of the plan of the house, showing size, height and arrangement of rooms, with the north and south aspects clearly indicated.
3. Give particulars of existing wood-work, mentioning the nature of the trim, floor, cornice, picture-moldings and mantel in each room; state what must be retained, and what, if any, specified articles of furniture are desired.
4. State separately the maximum outlay permissible for wall treatments, ceiling decoration (if any), textile hangings, carpets and furniture.
5. Send brief notes of the house, its location, age and environment, and such particulars of the owner's tastes and sentiments bearing upon the matter as would be discovered from a personal interview.
6. Send ten two-cent stamps if samples of paper, carpets, draperies, etc. are desired by mail, otherwise we must express same at inquirer's expense.



ARTICLES OF GENERAL INTEREST.

A NEW WARE.

HENRY CARL DANGLER, a young Frenchman, formerly employed in the Haviland and Limoges factories in France, has produced a new ware which may revolutionize the pottery industry. Instead of being fired in two kilns, the first as green, or "biscuit ware," and the second after it has gone through the glaze, the young foreigner has mixed a body which is only fired once. He has experimented three years on the new process, and last week put through half a kiln of his new ware. The samples produced are as beautiful as translucent china.

By going through only one instead of two kilns, the second firing and the extra labor, twenty-five per cent. of the outside cost of the materials could be saved. The ingredients and chemicals for the glaze are mixed in the body by the new process, instead of the ware being dipped in the glaze after the first firing—which now involves two distinct finishing processes.

A COSTLY THRONE.

From Harper's Round Table.

AT the time of the coronation of the Czar of Russia much was printed in the newspapers about the costly crown jewels and the magnificent imperial throne, but for all its magnificence and richness this nineteenth-century throne was nothing when compared to that of the Mogul Emperors of Delhi. This Indian throne was built in the reign of the Shah Jehan by a Frenchman who had been forced to seek an asylum in the Mogul empire. It was called the Peacock Throne, to distinguish it from other royal chairs, and because it was decorated with the figures of two huge peacocks. The throne was six feet long by four feet wide, and stood on six massive legs, which were of solid gold inlaid with rubies, emeralds, diamonds and all kinds of precious stones. Between the two peacocks perched a life-size parrot, which was carved out of a single emerald. The royal umbrellas, which are appendages to most Oriental thrones, were made of the finest silks, and were fringed with pearls, the handles being of solid gold studded with diamonds. It has been said by many writers that the famous Koh-i-noor diamond was originally set in this Peacock Throne. This story is very possibly true, inasmuch as the Koh-i-noor was at one time owned by the Shah Jehan. This throne has been valued at \$30,000,000, and this figure is doubtless not exaggerated, for the Mogul Emperors were wonderfully rich monarchs. When the Persians sacked Delhi in 1739, they destroyed the Peacock Throne, and carried off its jewels. A simple block of white marble now stands in the private audience hall in its place.

COSTLY TABLE DECORATIONS.

AMONG the English aristocracy table decorations are carried out on a very elaborate scale, large sums being spent in this direction. When a swell dinner is given, the family plate displayed is generally worth thousands of dollars; the china and glass may be worth anywhere between one and five hundred thousand dollars, while the florist's bill will often run to the same amount. An up-to-date function is not complete without the electrician, and his bill for fittings, etc., will very often run into three figures. At a recent dinner each guest had a light to himself, these being the only illuminants in the room. At another meeting the incandescents were placed in little bunches at a distance from one another, whilst in another case over one hundred lights shone from the flower vases and a large boat in the centre of the table.

With flowers, seldom less than two hundred and fifty dollars is given for table adornment. The usual amount is seventy dollars for every thirty persons, this being exclusive of button-holes; for palms, ferns, etc., as much as five hundred dollars will be given when purchased, but it is more fashionable to hire at the present day. The most expensive blossoms are orchids, for which as much as fifteen dollars a specimen has been given, while rare specimens of the chrysanthemum will cost one dollar and twenty-five cents each. Roses also are at times very dear, and for a large table as many as a thousand will be required. One of the biggest bills for table decorations was presented at the end of the London season; it came to two thousand five hundred dollars.